



*Dear Friends,*

**We have the great pleasure to announce the celebration of Mrs. Neshka Robeva's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday during the RG World Cup Sofia 2016. You are kindly invited to join us to make an unforgettable moment for our great coach!**

Neshka Robeva was born on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1946. She graduated the National School of Choreography and then the National Sports Academy (called then Higher School for Physical Education and Sport). She competed for the Bulgarian RG National Team and became Vice World Champion in 1969.

She was the Head Coach of the Bulgarian RG National Team for nearly 25 years (1976 – 1999). For a series of World Championships she prepared several World champions at once, which won her the glory of a coach of world renown:

- At the World Championships in Munich (1981) Anelia Ralenkova, AA World Champion, was followed by the other Bulgarian gymnasts Iliana Raeva and Lili Ignatova.
- At the World Championships in Strasbourg (1983) Dilyana Georgieva, AA World Champion, was followed by the other Bulgarian gymnasts Anelia Ralenkova and Lili Ignatova.
- At the World Championship in Valladolid in 1985 Dilyana Georgieva won again the AA World champion title. Lily Ignatova was the second once again and Bianca Panova was at the third place.
- In 1987 Bianca Panova won all the gold medals with scores of 10, which was then a unique case in the rhythmic gymnastics history.
- Coached by Neshka Robeva Maria Petrova was invariably the best gymnast at three consecutive World championships: in Alikante 1993, Paris 1994 and Vienna 1995, repeating thus the success of Maria Gigova.

For the European and World Champion titles the period when Neshka Robeva leded the National Team will be remembered as the "Golden Age" of the Bulgarian RG School and the generation of Iliana Raeva, Lili Ignatova, Anelia Ralenkova, Dilyana Georgieva, Bianca Panova and Maria Petrova – as the "Golden Girls of Bulgaria".

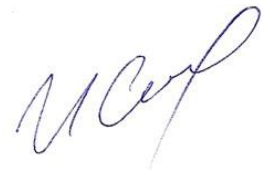
The medals of the Senior and Junior gymnasts won in this period by Neshka's girls are 294 in total - 143 gold, 88 silver and 63 bronze ones. Under her coaching the Bulgarian gymnasts won 7 absolute World titles and 7 European titles in the Individual and 6 in the Group, along with two silver Olympic medals.

For her outstanding achievements and dedication in her work Neshka Robeva has won almost all state honors. She was awarded a Diploma for contribution to the world women's Olympic sport.

In 2000 Robeva dedicated herself to the promotion of the Bulgarian and Balkan folklore by creating a troupe "National Art" of 35 girls and boys and seeking new forms for their stage performances with a contemporary interpretation. Neshka Robeva is a writer, director, choreographer and producer of the musical and dance shows: "Two Worlds", "Destiny", "Are you ready", "Triptych", "Aramii" and "Refugees". "Two Worlds", "Destiny" and "Are you ready" became extremely popular. The group

has had over 400 performances in Bulgaria and abroad – Broadway, Singapore "Art Festival", Greece, Turkey, Belgium, Israel, Italy, France, London and Macedonia.

Neshka Robeva was a Member of Parliament of the Republic of Bulgaria with two consecutive mandates.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Raeva', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ILIANA RAEVA**  
**PRESIDENT**